Remedial steps were taken in the form of public education and traininc of doctors and health workers. After these remedial steps, the incidence of "Bhanamati" has come down and only a few sporadic cases are reported.

New drug policy

2734. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:

SHRI MUNAWAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had intervened on the issue of drug policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government propose to come out with a new drug policy?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February, 2002. However, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an order passed by the Hon'ble Court dated 12.11.02, which stopped the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003. The matter is presently *sub-judice.*

Import policy of drugs

2735. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of intermediates do not require any registration under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act;

(b) the policy with regard to dual use of drugs which can be used as intermediates;

(c) whether I DMA has made any representation that such dual use drugs which can be used as intermediates be exempted from registration; and